

## IOWA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS™



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Mr. Michael K. Powell, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Dear Chairman Powell:

I would like your **support** for the merger that **is** currently before the Federal Communications Commission between EchoStar and DirecTV. In **many** rural Iowa communities, dependable **and** competitive television service **is** a challenge. **Many** homeowners have little or no ability to receive local television programming, **and** if they do, they are limited to one cable provider.

The **proposed** merger of EchoStar and DirecTV **would** change this scenario **for** rural Iowans by making more choices and solutions available to the general public. **As** a REALTOR®, I hear consumers **asking** about high-speed Internet access and **technology** features **for** their homes, **and** in **most** rural Iowa areas these options are currently not available.

A proposal like **this** merger would deliver competitive technology to even the most remote locations, instantly **allowing** some of our **smaller** businesses **and** individuals **to** compete in the global marketplace.

I believe **this** approval of this merger could literally make a world of difference for some communities in Iowa.

Sincerely,

Steinbrech Realty  
Iowa City, IA



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